(a) whether Indo-Russian talks are held in the field of Defence especially for purchase of SU-30 MK deals to strengthen its air fleet;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached between Russia and India in that regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the defence agreement with Russia will have any effect on relations with other countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) As part of on going Defence Co-operation between India and the Russian Federation a number of high level delegations visited India during October, 19%. These inter-alia, included the meeting of the Indo-Russian Joint Group on Military and Technical co-operation and separate visits by a delegation from Rosvoorouzhnic, by the Russian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, and by the Defence Minister of the Russian Federation. No Agreement on purchase of SU-30 MK Aircraft has been signed with Russia so far, even though discussion on their acquisition have been in progress for some time. However, an Agreement on Service-to-Service co-operation between the two countries was signed during the visit of the Russian Defence Minister to India on 21-23 October, 1996. This Agreement provides for co-operation in the field of training, visits of Military Specialists to each other's country, preparation of programmes of participation in joint military exercises, participation in seminars/symposia and exchange of good-will visits.

(d) and (e) This Agreement is neither directed at any third country nor is its implementation likely to affect our relations with other countries.

Citizenship Rights to Chakmas and Hajongs

46. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to stale:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to grant citizenship rights to Chakmas and Hajongs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The issue of Chakmas and Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh including the matter regarding grant of citizenship was the subject matter of a Writ Petition filed in the Supreme Court by the National Human Rights Commission. The Supreme Court vide its Judgement dated 09.1.1996 had directed, inter-alia, that the applications made for registration as citizens of India by Chakmas under Section 5 of the Citizenship Act shall be entered in the register maintained for the purpose and shall be forwarded by the Collector or the DC, with or without enquiry, as the case may be to the Central Government for consideration in accordance with Law. No such application/ recommendation has been received by the Central Government so far. The Central Government have reminded the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

Revival of sick Units of National Textile Corporation

47. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL.
SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided for an action plan for the revival of sick and potentially viable units of National Textile Corporation (NTC); and

(b) whether the revival plan has been approved by the Union-Cabinet, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Government has approved a revised Turn Around Plan for modernisation of NTC mills involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units, etc. The funds for modernisation are expected to be met out of the proceeds from sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. Since 8 out of 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC are before the BIFR, the

revised Turn Around Plan has been placed before the BIFR for their approval. Pending approval of the modernisation/rehabilitation plan by the BIFR, Government are meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in meeting the requirements of its wages/salaries.

Installation of Coin-Operated PCOs in Andhra Pradesh

48. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Telecom proposes to install and operate latest coin-operated PCOs in the State;

(b) if so, by when this programme is likely to be operational;

(c) whether any effort has been made to provide coin-operated PCO machines which would return coins for incomplete calls

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of such machines proposed to be installed in Andhra Pradesh in 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (e) Sir, the existing coin operated PCOs working in Andhra Pradesh are of post payment type in which the coins are to be inserted after the called party answers.

A new coin operated PCO instrument has been development which is of pre-payment type in which coins are to be put before dialling and has the facility to refund the coins in case of incomplete calls.

In Andhra Pradesh, new type of coin operated PCOs will be provided after their receipt from Telecom Stores Organisation. This will be done in a phased manner.

Action on Recommendations of Vohra Committee Report

49. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in the context of the report of the Vohra Committee, whether Government intend to enquire into the alleged role played by Persons as liaison between politicians and criminals;

(b) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has been asked to pursue the search for such links; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up special tribunals for conducting cases arising out of such investigations and whether such tribunals would be permitted to work in a fully transparent manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Various investigating and Enforcement Agencies of the Government have been taking action on cases where such liaison has come to light. In a number of such cases proceedings/prosecutions have been initiated from time to time against different persons. These agencies continue ot take action in such cases under the laws of the country as contemplated.

(c) No, Sir. in view of (a) & (b) above.

वस्त्र उद्योग संबंधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन

50. श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ ने नवंबर, 1995 के दौरान भारत में किसी वस्त्र उद्योग संबंधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस सम्मेलन में जिन मुख्य मुद्दों पर विचार किया गया उनका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस पर सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री आर.एल. जालप्पा): (क) जी हां।

(ख) और (ग) सम्मेलन में वस्त्र नीति वस्त्र उद्योग की मौजूदा स्थिति, विश्वव्यापीकरण की चुनौतियों गाट उपरान्त परिदृश्य उद्योग को विशेष कर कपास जैसे कच्चे माल की उपलब्धता, कपास के निर्यात तथा इस संबंध में सरकार की नीतियों से संबंधित मुद्दों पर विचार विमर्श हुआ। मौजूदा वस्त्र नीति में वस्त्र उद्योग के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों को व्यापक रूप से शामिल किया गया है। सरकार भी वस्त्र क्षेत्र की अवस्था का निरंतर मानिटर करती है जिसका उद्देश्य यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि किसी भी तरह विकास अवरुद्ध न हो तथा जब कभी भी वस्त्र उद्योग के क्षेत्र में ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न हो जाती है जिसकी ओर ध्यान देना